

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 260

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas 2005 marks the 40th anniversary of the promulgation of *Nostra Aetate*, the declaration on the relation of the Roman Catholic Church to non-Christian religions;

Whereas on October 28, 1965, after the overwhelmingly affirmative vote of the Second Vatican Council of the Roman Catholic Church, Pope Paul VI issued *Nostra Aetate*, which means “in our time”;

Whereas *Nostra Aetate* affirmed the respect of the Roman Catholic Church for Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism, and exhorted Catholics to engage in “dialogue and collaboration with the followers of other religions”;

Whereas *Nostra Aetate* made possible a new relationship between Catholics and Jews worldwide and opened a chapter in Jewish-Christian relations that is unprecedented in its closeness and warmth;

Whereas *Nostra Aetate* states that the Roman Catholic Church “decries hatred, persecution, displays of anti-Semitism, directed against Jews at any time and by anyone”; and

Whereas *Nostra Aetate* clearly states that “No foundation therefore remains for any theory or practice that leads to discrimination between man and man or people and people, so far as their human dignity and the rights flowing from it are concerned.”: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2 *concurring)*, That Congress—

3            (1) recognizes the 40th anniversary of the Sec-  
4        ond Vatican Council’s promulgation of *Nostra*  
5        *Aetate*, the declaration on the relation of the Roman  
6        Catholic Church to non-Christian religions;

7            (2) appreciates the role of the Holy See in com-  
8        bating religious intolerance and religious discrimina-  
9        tion;

10           (3) encourages the United States to continue to  
11        serve in a leading role in combating anti-Semitism

1 and other forms of religious intolerance and religious  
2 discrimination worldwide;

3 (4) acknowledges the role of Nostra Aetate in  
4 fostering interreligious dialogue and mutual respect,  
5 including, in particular, new relationships of collabo-  
6 ration and dialogue between Jews and Catholics  
7 since the issuance of Nostra Aetate; and

8 (5) requests the President to issue a proclama-  
9 tion recognizing the 40th anniversary of Nostra  
10 Aetate and the historic role of Nostra Aetate in fos-  
11 tering mutual interreligious respect and dialogue.

Passed the House of Representatives November 7,  
2005.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's promulgation of *Nostra Aetate*, the declaration on the relation of the Roman Catholic Church to non-Christian religions, and the historic role of *Nostra Aetate* in fostering mutual interreligious respect and dialogue.